

**To:** Henderson, Carol[Carol.Henderson@wildlife.nh.gov]  
**From:** Nelson, Eric  
**Sent:** Thur 9/17/2015 7:58:26 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Sampling in the Merrimack River

Thanks so much, Carol.

We'll certainly be sharing our findings with NHFGD as soon as they're available.

Best,

Eric

**Eric P. Nelson**

Ocean and Coastal Protection Unit

Unit Dive Officer

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**

New England Region, 5 Post Office Square,

Suite 100, Mail Code OEP06-1, Boston, MA 02109-3912

Ph: 617.918.1676 -- nelson.ericp@epa.gov

**From:** Henderson, Carol [mailto:Carol.Henderson@wildlife.nh.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2015 3:55 PM  
**To:** Nelson, Eric  
**Cc:** Smagula, Amy; Henderson, Walter  
**Subject:** RE: Sampling in the Merrimack River

Hi Eric:

Thank for the information. Your collection permit has already been processed since Amy applied in July for this upcoming work (attached). The permit is good until December 31, 2015. Please make sure to bring a copy of the permit with you in case you are questioned by a Department Conservation Officer. Also, we look forward to your findings when it is submitted in the report that is a requirement of the collection permit. If you have any questions or comment, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you, Carol Henderson, NH Fish and Game Department

**From:** Nelson, Eric [<mailto:nelson.ericp@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2015 3:29 PM  
**To:** Henderson, Carol  
**Subject:** Sampling in the Merrimack River

Hi Carol-

The US EPA plans to conduct benthic sampling in the Hooksett Pool impoundment of the Merrimack River this fall, and requests a collection permit. The dates have not been finalized but we hope to start in early October, but it could be between October 1 and November 30, 2015. We will be coordinating this effort with NHDES (Amy Smagula). Specifically, we will be collecting a series of benthic grab samples possibly using a variety of methods (e.g., Peterson-type grab sampler, diver core samples) to further assess the presence and density of Asian clams (*Corbicula fluminea*). Samples will be inspected for all macro-invertebrates. Asian clams and other macro-invertebrates will be retained for further processing, and all native mussels will be returned to the river. Mike Marchand will be notified within 24 hours if any brook floater mussels (*Alasmidonta varicose*) are captured in the samples.

Included under this permit request are Eric Nelson (EPA), Hilary Snook (EPA), and Amy Smagula (NHDES).

I'd be happy to include this information in a letter to your Director if that is the typical protocol. Please let me know if you require any additional information, and how best to proceed with this request.

Thanks for your assistance.

Best regards,

Eric

**Eric P. Nelson**

Ocean and Coastal Protection Unit

Unit Dive Officer

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